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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 147152

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-05 USIA-12 RSC-01 /026 R

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COM/OED/MEPD/JMSANDS, DIRECTOR
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USIA/SBOURGIN(INFO)
EB/OCA/BR:RSCISSORS
---------- 054983
P 091413Z JUL 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, SN
SUBJECT: ASIAN BUS MANUFACTURING

REF: SINGAPORE'S 2654

1. REGIONAL BUS CONCEPT SUBJECT OF DISCUSSIONS YESTERDAY BETWEEN AMBASSADOR CRONK, BOURGIN OF USIA, SMITH OF COMMERCE MAJOR EXPORT PROJECTS DIV., AND CARTER, EDITOR/PUBLISHER "MASS TRANSIT". COMMERCE WILLING EXPLORE POSSIBILITY INVITING INDUSTRY TASK FORCE TO VISIT SINGAPORE AND OTHER ASEAN CAPITALS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. HOWEVER, MORE DETAILS NECESSARY IN ORDER PROVIDE BASIS FOR APPROACH TO INDUSTRY.

2. SEVERAL POINTS REQUIRE CLARIFICATIONS. DOES GOS ENVISAGE ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY US MANUFACTURER WOULD PROVIDE TECHNICAL
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PAGE 02 STATE 147152

ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL MANUFACTURING OPERATION, IS GOS INTERESTED

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

IN AMERICAN FIRM BUILDING PLANT FOR LOCAL PRODUCTION, OR DOES IT WISH IMPORT COMPONENTS (SUCH AS ENGINES, DRIVE TRAINS, CHASSIS) FOR LOCAL ASSEMBLY? HAS THIS SUBJECT GENERATED ENOUGH INTEREST FOR GOS TO REQUEST VISIT BY INDUSTRY TEAM OR IS SITWAWALLA SUGGESTION INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE? RE PARA 3 OF REFTEL, BELIEVE HOCHSTADT/SITWAWALLA REQUEST FOR INDUSTRY PROPOSAL REQUIRES ANSWERS TO FOREGOING QUESTIONS.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATIONS WHETHER EARLY INDUSTRY TASK FORCE VISIT IS MOST PRODUCTIVE APPROACH OR WHETHER ALTERNATIVE COURSE OF ACTION MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATE AS PRELIMINARY. SISCO

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